

WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1854.

FUSION AND CONFUSION.

New York has always been distinguished among her sister States for the number, variety, peculiar nomenclature, and nearly unintelligible distinctions and shades of difference into which her political parties have been split up. Recently, however, these divisions have been subdivided, or have undergone new combinations, to an extent of complexity never before reached. We would fain keep our readers, as in duty bound, posted up in the political affairs of that great and influential member of the Confederacy, to make clear to them the different aims and principles of its various parties; but it would be a difficult task, and hardly worth the labor if it could be accomplished. The difficulty would apply to the Democratic party as well as to the Whig. Indeed the former party appears to be in the greater confusion of the two; as an evidence of which we may mention that a leading measure of the Administration—the Nebraska bill—is supported by the Democratic opponents of the Administration and disapproved by its supporters. In regard to the movements of the Whigs of the Empire State, however, it is due to our readers to afford them the light reflected in the following articles, copied from two of the most reliable Whig journals in the State.

FROM THE NEW YORK COURIER OF THURSDAY MORNING.

We believe we have reached the end of the State Conventions. Seven, with all their various togery on, have fled before the public eye—the Democratic, the Anti-Nebraska, the Democratic Soft, the Democratic Whig, the Independent Democratic, the Adjoined Anti-Nebraska, and the Maine Law. It is possible we shall have yet another, for we have seen nothing yet of the white and black squad who go by the name of "The Liberty Folks." Surely, with their immaculate valor, they ought to be in motion now.

The three Conventions which have just dispersed at Auburn have not materially added to the personnel of the canvass. Two of them indeed nominated a ticket entirely new in all respects save the candidate for Governor; but, after all, in endorsing this most important nomination, they gave a virtual sanction to the whole ticket, which, in its practical results, will be about as effectual as if that sanction had been more full and formal. There is no reason why one of the Whig candidates should receive the Free Soil vote which does not apply equally well to all. They have each and all, over their own signatures, signified their approval of the resolutions of the first Anti-Nebraska Convention, and have therein put themselves upon a far more advanced platform than that framed by the Whig Convention at Syracuse.

The Saratoga Convention resolved that "we now take our ground distinctly on the principle that all territory of the United States must henceforth be free territory, and all States hereafter must come in as free States." The Whig Convention simply declared that they were "forever released from all obligations to admit into the Union any State which sanctions or permits slavery," referring to the obligations involved in the compromises which are now at an end. The Anti-Nebraska Convention marches into the very heart of Free Soil and takes everlasting possession; the Whig Convention simply fled back from the prostrated compromises upon neutral ground, not committing itself to any specific principle in regard to the admission of new States, but holding itself at liberty to deal with each case on its merits.

Here certainly is a broad interval. And yet every man of the Whig ticket, at the invitation of "W. C. BRYANT and JOHN JAY, committee," is willing to leap it, and does leap it. The Governor leaps it "fully and cordially;" the Lieutenant leaps it "to the fullest extent;" the Canal Commissioner leaps it "with unqualified assent and approval;" and the State Prison Inspector comes down upon the Saratoga convention not only with "hearty approbation and endorsement," but with the round assertion that he "can stand on no other platform than that which has for its object the overthrow of that institution that holds it to be right to enslave any class of my fellow-men."

Now, how is this? A week ago we saw four men erect and smiling on the Whig platform; they moved about as if they were perfectly at home there, and they were greeted on all sides as Whig-platform candidates. We now look again, and they are gone. They have jumped away. At a bound they have leaped clear of every thing from Syracuse to Auburn; over the heads of old Whigs, with whom they have served many a year, into the loving embrace of "W. C. BRYANT and JOHN JAY, committee." Now, gentlemen, we tell you plainly that this strikes us as very painful work. If you did not think that the Syracuse platform was good enough to stand upon, why did you allow yourselves to be put upon it? If you did not mean to keep it, why did you take it? In accepting the pleas of candidates on that platform, you, as honorable men, accepted the principles thereof. It is thus that your nominations have received the universal sanction of the Whig party through the State; and yet that sanction is no sooner given than you simultaneously commit yourselves to a principle and a policy which you know tens of thousands of the Whigs who had ratified your nomination could not and would not sustain. This is decidedly a new feature in the relations between parties and their candidates. Hereafter it has been supposed that the acceptance of a nomination implied a pledge to stand by the manifesto of principles whereupon it was made, and, though support might be tendered by other parties in a different position, that it was not permissible to move away from the first ground in order to obtain it. Candidates, after being made candidates, have hitherto been held bound to stand in their tracks; now, it seems, it is otherwise.

A turbid eddy, like that at Auburn, a collection of atoms "multiform and mix," whirled about in empty space by their own levity, or jostling together by numerous points of repulsion, and tossed with all their official projects and airy predictions, is not the place for the candidates of the great Whig party of New York to cast their fortunes in. They have made a mistake in thinking so.

FROM THE N. Y. COMMERCIAL OF THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

The Courier and Enquirer speaks positively upon a subject at which we but briefly hinted yesterday—the full endorsement of the Saratoga resolutions.

There is a great deal of truth and justice in the Courier's complaint and accusation, and we felt similar disappointment and vexation in reading the letters of the Whig candidates which thus fully committed them to the Saratoga resolutions, but not to those adopted at Auburn, as affirmed by the Courier, which go yet further. As to the letter of Mr. BOWEN, the Whig candidate for prison inspector, we should have immediately advertised upon it had the office to which he aspires any political, executive, or legislative importance. As such was not the case, however, and the issue involved in the course pursued by the other candidates was of such vast moment, not to ourselves alone as supporters of the Whig ticket, but to the party itself in the matter of that general confidence which it had acquired, and especially as to its success or defeat at the approaching State election, we felt, and still feel, reluctant to expatiate upon the unpleasant theme.

But the issue is before us, and must be met. The difference of phraseology pointed out by the Courier is important, though the framers of each probably designed to express the same idea. But it seems to us that the latter clause of the Saratoga resolution contains a more mischievous tenuity, inasmuch as it asserts, or seems to assert, that it is the "primary duty of the Federal Government to interfere perpetually" for the suppression of slavery in each of the States and Territories. This is not

Whig doctrine. We have called upon the framers of those resolutions, himself formerly a Whig of the first water, and one of the most influential members of the party in this State, for an explanation of this resolve, but so far in vain. What does it mean? If it was designed to bear the construction which we put upon it, and which we think almost every one who reads it will naturally put upon it, then Messrs. Clark, Raymond, Fitzhugh, and Bowne have departed, we doubt not unintentionally, and for lack of duly weighing the import of words, from the Whig platform to which they were pledged, and had better retract their steps as soon as possible, and as publicly as they have erred, unless they are indifferent to the support of the conservative portion of the Whig party.

It pains us inexpressibly to write. Often has this journal sacrificed the strongest personal predilections of its conductors for the sake of political principles to which the "Commercial" has long been unwaveringly attached, and because we respect the decision of majorities. But he letters of the candidates, endorsing so cordially the Saratoga resolutions, are not the acts of the party in any sense, or of a majority of the party, or even of a minority of any recognized organization of the party, but of four gentlemen set apart as representatives of the party on the express understanding that they should recognize no other platform, endorse no other resolutions affecting local and national questions, than those adopted by the Syracuse Convention. But there has been far too much of this kind of bidding for votes by candidates for public offices, though we do not remember the time when Whig candidates so palpably fell into the snare.

We have never sought occasion for fault-finding with our political friends; on the contrary, we have more than once wrongfully been accused of sacrificing principle to secure party ends. But we cannot approve the present action of our candidates if they rightly interpret the Saratoga resolutions, whatever the magnitude of the political successes which may be predicated from the support thus acquired from the party represented by those resolutions. The Whig platform adopted at Syracuse is sufficiently anti-slavery, and not more than sufficiently, for our views. Thus far can we go heartily, but no further; and we wait with no little anxiety to read the opinions of a few of our most trusted Whig contemporaries before further expressing our own.

In support of what we have said as to the confusion of parties in the Empire State, it may be mentioned that ten Political Conventions have already been held there since the 12th of July, and that several others are yet to be held. Those that have taken place embrace Hard Democrats, Soft Democrats, Whigs, Fusionists, Free Democrats, Anti-Nebraskaes, Seceding Free-soilers, Independent Fusionists, Temperance men, and Liberty men. Those yet to come will include Anti-Slavery men, Fugitive Slave Rescuers, and Know-Nothings. As each of these Conventions will set forth a different platform, every shade of opinion will be accommodated.

There are as yet only four candidates in the field for Governor, viz: MYRON H. CLARK, Whig and Anti-Nebraska; GREENE C. BRONSON, Hard-shell Democrat; HORATIO SEYMOUR, (the present Governor,) Soft-shell or Free-soil Democrat; and WM. GOUGALL, Liberty man. There are five candidates for Lieutenant Governor, and a still larger number for the other State offices.

THE HARDS AND SOFTS OF NEW YORK.

The Albany Argus of Thursday last treats with undiminished scorn the idea that there is any thing like a fusion contemplated between the divorced fragments of the Democratic party. It depicts the Softs as a "forlorn" set of beings, whose existence in any considerable force it deems doubtful. It is not disposed to treat with them upon any terms short of absolute humiliation. We quote the article of the Argus on this subject:

FROM THE ALBANY ARGUS OF SEPTEMBER 28.

The Democratic State Committee meets, according to appointment, at Congress Hall this evening. The Soft State Committee, subsequently called together, meets also at the Mansion House in this city to-day. The fact that the State Committees of two antagonistic organizations thus convene on the same day and in the same city has given rise to a great many idle rumors of doors, based upon the assumption that the coincidence was a matter of arrangement between the two, and that it indicated a contemplated fusion or coalition, or an attempt at one or the other, or something else. It is proper to say that nothing can be more ridiculously absurd and unfounded than all this gossip.

The Democratic State Committee was called by its chairman with a view to the transaction of its legitimate business, and without the slightest reference to or knowledge of the movements of the Soft Committee. Of the design of the chairman of the latter, in calling his forlorn associates together here on the same day, the chairman of the former knows nothing and cares less. It is sufficient for him and all of us to know that the Democratic State Committee has its prescribed and limited, though important, powers and duties, and that it forms no part of either to hold communication with or entertain overtures from the Soft organization, either through its committee or any other medium, whatever functions may have been conferred or assumed by the other. The Democratic State Committee, if inclined as they certainly are not to recognize the Soft Committee, or the organization they profess to represent, claiming as they do an exclusive Democratic character, without conceding assumptions hostile to and inconsistent with the just pretensions and undoubted right of those to whom they owe allegiance, to recognize the Soft Committee, or make terms with the Softs or their committee than with other outsiders and aliens from any healthy organization.

If, as is rumored—with what foundation we are not aware—the Softs have in contemplation to withdraw, in whole or in part, their ticket, so called; if they choose, to avoid a show of their utter weakness at the polls, thus to disband an organization which exists only in name; and if their committee desire and conclude to throw up their commissions, it is a matter with which Democrats have no wish or right to interfere. So, on the other hand, if they prefer to stick to the ticket, and if the Democrats, in their own right, and for their own exclusive benefit, wish to see them, it is a matter with which Democrats have no wish or right to interfere. Most assuredly if the Softs choose to stand by their own free will and accord. They must surrender unconditionally or not at all.

The Hon. THOMAS H. BENTON returned to Washington some days ago, and is at his residence in this city. He has, we are glad to learn, the comfort of the presence and company of all his daughters and his grandchildren.

TALES TWICE TOLD.

ARKANSAS.—The readers of Democratic papers must be well posted by this time in regard to the election in Arkansas. The triumph of Democracy in that quarter (where it never suffered defeat) seems to be such a sweet and rare morsel that we think it likely its announcement and re-announcement will be kept up until Christmas.

SO WITH VERMONT. Something rich is found there. It is said that the Democrats have thrown over two thousand more votes than Gen. Pierce received in 1852. This the Union announced on the 23d September, in a cheerful article from the Montpelier Patriot, exulting in the fact that there was no "annihilation of the Democracy." Certainly this was something to be grateful for in these perilous times of "fusion and confusion;" and we do not wonder that the Union should have reproduced it on the 28th, with the consolatory parts italicized and the renewed assurance given with union that the party was not so badly beaten as at some previous elections: from all which we are to infer that the indomitable party in the Green Mountains can stand another beating without losing its vitality. This is very much like the joy a poor inebriate feels when he falls into the gutter and breaks a leg. He is profoundly thankful that it was not his neck.

NAVY.—The Constellation, at Norfolk, (Va.) is fitting for the Pacific ocean, and the Jamestown, at Philadelphia, for the coast of Africa. The frigate Sabine, at New York, is preparing for a cruise. Seamen are scarce.

"MAKING THE ISSUE IN MICHIGAN."

Under the above perspicuous caption we find the following article in the last number of the Washington Union:

"We expressed our gratification yesterday at the nomination of Mr. STUART for Congress. The following proposition addressed by him to his competitor, Mr. HOWARD, manifests the spirit with which he enters the canvass. Mr. STUART voted for the Nebraska bill, and he now challenges his competitor to go before the people and discuss that issue. The following is the proposition:

"DETROIT, SEPTEMBER 23, 1854.
"WM. A. HOWARD, Esq.—SIR: The Conventions which nominated you for Representative in Congress having made the act organizing the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska the only issue in the approaching election, I propose to discuss the principles of that act with you at the following places, to-wit: Detroit, the Arbor, Jackson, and Howell, at such times and under such regulations as mutual friends may determine.
"SIR, respectfully, your obedient servant,
"DAVID STUART."

The Southern reader must not infer, from the above statements, that Mr. STUART has taken the field in decided support of the Nebraska act as that measure is understood and sustained at the South. Not at all. The issue made by the Democrats in Michigan and other Northern States is, that the Nebraska act, by establishing the principle of "popular sovereignty," (or, in other words, the "squatter sovereignty") so universally repudiated at the South, is in fact a "boon to freedom." Consequently the whole drift of the argument in Michigan is to show that the Southern States have in truth lost a privilege they possessed before the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and that, as slavery can only be protected in the Territories by the positive enactment of Congress, the Nebraska act will necessarily prevent the formation of any more Slave States.

The subjoined article, copied from the Detroit "Free Press," the leading Democratic paper in Michigan, will show what really is the issue presented by the Democratic party of that State.

FROM THE DETROIT (MICHIGAN) "FREE PRESS."

The effect of the Nebraska Bill not to open the new Territories to Slavery.

The chief objection urged by the anti-Nebraskaes of every hue against the Nebraska-Kansas act is that it opens an immense tract of territory to the spread of slavery. Driven to the wall on every other point of objection, they cling to this with the tenacity of drowning men. Let us dislodge them from their last hold.

Slavery is the creature of municipal law. It is a creature which exists only by positive enactment. Until laws are passed in Nebraska and Kansas establishing slavery, every slave taken there becomes a free man the moment he steps upon the soil. Does anybody doubt it? Will any Whig, or Abolitionist, or Fusionist deny it? Let it may be denied, we propose to bring authoritatively and irrefragably, so overwhelming, that the FACT WILL BE DETERMINED IN THE MINDS OF ALL MEN. This authority follows, and we are indebted to the Kalamazoo Gazette for the compilation:

"The relation of the owner and slave, in the States of the Union in which it has a legal existence, is a creature of the municipal law."—Martin's Louisiana Statute, p. 402.
"The right of the master exists not by force of the law of nature or nations, but by virtue only of the positive law. And again, in the same State, slavery is condemned by reason and the laws of nature. It exists, and can only exist, through municipal regulations."—Walker's Mississippi Reports, page 86.

"Slavery exists only by positive law of a municipal character, without foundation in the law of nature or the unwritten or common law."—2d Marshall's Kentucky Reports, page 470.

"The state of slavery is deemed a mere municipal regulation, founded upon and limited to the range of the territorial law."—Pierce's (Pa.) Digest, vol. 2, page 607.

"It has been held by the Circuit Court of the United States (seventh circuit) that where slavery is not expressly established by law every person, without distinction of color, is presumed to be free."—2d McLean's Reports, page 601.

"Between you and me, Mr. Chairman, the Constitution does not carry slavery any where, except it be in a runaway, and it does take him back from a free State to his master in a slave State. There is a law for that. But, sir, in a Territory, from which all law has been swept, in what way does the Constitution protect slavery? There must be local legislation to enable you to invoke the Constitution. It is the Constitution to keep a marshal there to prevent the slave who may be carried there from setting up for himself. If Nebraska is to remain free of local law relative to slavery, like an island fresh risen from the sea, and two men, a black man and a white man, find themselves there, will the Constitution define who is the master and which is the slave? I confess I should feel that there would be some ground to apprehend that the black man might turn the tables on me."—Speech of Mr. Harris, of Mississippi.

"There can be no more slavery in this Territory, either by natural law or by the Constitution of the United States, until the Legislature of that Territory by law admits it." [Speech of Mr. Franklin, of Maryland.]

"Without the sanction of law slavery can no more exist in a Territory than a man can breathe without air. Slaves are not property where they are not made so by municipal law."—Judge McLean's Letter to the Buffalo Courier, page 86.

"Believing in what I have said from the beginning, that slavery is extinct in New Mexico and in all California, and cannot be revived in either, or in any part of either, without positive enactment, I am ready to vote them Governments without any provision on the subject of slavery."—Hon. Thomas H. Benton.

"My rules of interpreting the Constitution of the United States are the good old rules of '98 and '00. I never have in my life deviated from these rules. And what are they? The Constitution is an aggregate of ceded powers. No power is granted except when it is expressly delegated, or when it is necessary and proper to carry into effect a delegated power; and, in any instance, the power to carry slaves into the Territories is guaranteed by the Constitution, or in any incident necessary to the carrying out of any other power that is delegated in the Constitution, I have been unable to perceive it. It is nowhere to be found. You must resort to some such general principle as the Federalists did, in the early history of this country, when they contended for the doctrine of 'general welfare'; but you cannot put your finger on the part of the Constitution which conveys the right or power to carry slaves from one of the States of the Union to any Territory of the United States."

[Speech of Henry Clay.]
Here is an array of decisions and opinions which cannot be disturbed by any conflicting authority. They come from sources the very highest in the country—from courts and jurists and statesmen in both sections of the Union, from men of all political parties.—Free Press.

CUMBERLAND COAL TRADE.—We learn from the Cumberland Telegraph that the quantity of coal brought down last week was 14,347 tons, making for the season 459,657 tons, of which 111,819 tons descended the canal and 347,738 tons were transported over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. During the week thirty boats with 2,263 tons of coal and 112 tons of coke descended the canal, in which the water continues at a low stage. On Thursday, however, another fleet of twenty boats was to leave Cumberland for Alexandria.

The sloop Leader, from New York for Shrewsbury, was discovered to be on fire on Wednesday. Upon looking into the hold the crew found that the water had communicated to some lime, and there being three kegs of powder on board, they left immediately in their boat. In a few minutes the sloop blew up.

The Rev. THOS. M. CLARKE was on Wednesday elected Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the diocese of Rhode Island. He had the votes of a large majority of both the clergymen and the laity composing the Convention.

A return just issued of the population of Ireland shows that the number of inhabitants has fallen off two millions in the past five years. In the year 1805 the population was over five millions; in 1814 six millions; in 1824 seven millions; in 1837 eight millions; in 1846 8,886,940; and in 1851 only 6,551,970.

THE AMERICAN MINISTER TO SPAIN.

The London Morning Post of the 11th instant has the following in reference to the late rumors affecting the conduct of the American Minister at Madrid:

"In Spain things wear a rather bright complexion. The new Government seems disposed to place limits to the march of revolution, and whilst endeavoring to establish liberty, to check the advance of licentiousness. An attempt to get up new disturbances, but it was promptly and effectually put down. Two of the Madrid newspapers—the 'Nation' and the 'Diario Espanol'—have ventured to charge the United States Minister at the Court of Spain, Mr. SOULE, with having fomented these disturbances. This, however, is very improbable, because so enlightened a diplomatist as Mr. SOULE cannot fall to have read history, and to have found it there recorded that in January, 1716, the British Government arrested the Swedish Minister at London, Count GYLLENBERG, and seized his papers, because it believed the Count to be implicated in treasonable proceedings against the Crown of England. There is, therefore, a point at which diplomatic immunity ceases, and it does not seem consistent with the acuteness of his adopted country that Mr. SOULE should have risked his privileges in the hopeless object, no doubt falsely ascribed to him, of establishing republicanism in Spain. He has, however, quitted the country for the present, perhaps from a feeling of delicacy, and is to take up his temporary residence on the French territory, where, we presume, his passport will operate as a ticket of leave."

Mr. SOULE has written the following letter to the "Diario Espanol," in reply to the charges of the Madrid press:

MADRID, AUGUST 31, 1854.

The tone and character of the article referring to me, published in your columns of this day, indicate too clearly the influence which inspired it not to deserve from me the honor of a reply.

I absent myself from Madrid because such is my pleasure, being accountable to no one for my acts or conduct. The fear of being insulted or menaced by persons to whom my presence might be disagreeable would never cause me to abandon my post. I fear neither the sneer of impudent fellows nor the dagger of hired assassins. Above all, sir, I do not fear the people. The people respect what is entitled to respect. They only stigmatize the wretches who flatter and deceive them. The people fight, but are not assassins.

With regard to the perfidious insinuations with which your article abounds, they are beneath my contempt. I leave you the merit of the varnish with which you have glossed them over, and to those who dictate them the infamy of their intention.

I am, sir, your servant, PIERRE SOULE.

BULLETIN OF SOUTHERN MEXICO.

The New Orleans Picayune has intelligence from Acapulco to the 7th instant, as follows:

"Correspondence with which we are favored announces that Gen. Alvarez in person, at the head of 2,500 men, entered the city of Yutela on the 4th instant. The Government troops, it is stated, had previously abandoned it on account of the approach of Alvarez. He left on the 23d just in time to escape him. From that point Alvarez purposed pushing forward to Chilpancingo, where he was expected to reach in a few days without opposition, as the Government troops have been withdrawn from the State capital and from Acapulco. Many of the principal towns of Jalisco are said to have joined the revolution. A detachment of Alvarez's troops, having been seduced at Aguila to join the Government forces, is said to have subsequently turned round again and fought very valiantly for their chief. The place was taken by the revolutionists with a force of one hundred and fifty men, and a loss of a captain, a sergeant, and seven soldiers killed, and two sergeants, one corporal, and three soldiers wounded. Gen. Diaz Salgado and Comandante Don Ignacio Diaz are said to have refused offers made to them by Santa Anna to abandon Alvarez. The town of Cayuco pronounced on the 10th of July.

"According to these accounts the revolution is all but a fait accompli. We are curious to see what accounts published with respect to it we shall receive through the papers published in Mexico."

HEALTH OF NEW ORLEANS.

FROM THE NEW ORLEANS COURIER OF SEPT. 23.
Still does yellow fever reign in our midst as fatally, as unspasmodically as at any period of the summer. We cannot, unhappily, communicate to our readers the agreeable intelligence that there is the slightest appearance of diminution. In the Charity Hospital, by the last report, it appears that the number of deaths from five o'clock on Saturday evening until the same hour on Thursday evening was twenty-two deaths for each of the four hours in that establishment alone. This shows that the mortality is far from being on the decrease, and should be sufficient warning for those who may not be as yet acclimated to be on their guard. We understand, also, that in private practice the disease is still as prevalent and malignant as ever. It exists, for the most part, in the third, fourth, and upper portion of the first districts. For this we can assign no other reason than that these are the quarters most thickly populated by the unacclimated citizens. Considering the small number of the latter, who have, however, been necessary of inclination, remained in this city this summer, we cannot refrain from remarking that the bill of mortality is proportionately high. Under this state of things it is with regret that we learn that the deck of the steamer S. F. J. Trabue, which arrived in port on Saturday last, and which was crowded with passengers, chiefly composed of laborers who have come to this city for the purpose of seeking employment at the commencement of the business season. Without wishing them any harm, we would have much preferred that they had remained away for some time. Poor people! they have rushed into the city without knowing it, into the lion's mouth, or perhaps they have been lulled into a sense of security by the false representations of persons who, through interested motives, have wilfully deceived them.

IMPORTANT RAILROAD CONNECTION.

The people of Baltimore and portions of the West are looking forward with great interest to the early connection of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad with the Central Ohio Railroad at Wheeling. There are now only about twelve miles of the latter upon which the rails are to be laid. The plan of connexion at Wheeling with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, notwithstanding the intervention of the river, contemplates the disuse of all taxation for drays, storage, and commissions. The crossing of the Ohio river will be accomplished by double-tracked inclined planes, &c. The superintendent estimates that there will be 150,000 through passengers the first year.

The Marietta and Cincinnati Railroad was completed on the 22d instant from Blaineport, on the Hillsborough road, to Chillicothe, making a direct line from Cincinnati to Chillicothe.

WOOD GAS.—We have already referred to an important invention to bring this kind of gas into general use. The New York Evening Post states that seven cities on the continent of Europe are at this moment lighted with wood gas. It is used in Philadelphia and New York. The Manhattan Gas Works make between eight and nine thousand cubic feet of wood gas a day. It will be no inconsiderable saving to the people of Washington if generally introduced.

MR. GORE, the English Chargé d'Affaires at Monte video, died of apoplexy on the 30th of July.

TRUE AMERICAN DOCTRINE.

At a public banquet in this city, in 1823, Mr. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS gave the following toast, as just in sentiment as it was felicitous in its construction:

"SELF-DEPENDENCE AND SELF-IMPROVEMENT—The first right and the first duty of every nation."
This fine and beautifully expressed sentiment is more fully developed in the annexed extract of a letter written by the same distinguished statesman to a friend in Cincinnati in the year 1824:

"The question of the power of Congress to authorize the making of internal improvements is, in other words, a question whether the people of this Union, in forming their social compact, avowedly for the purpose of promoting their general welfare, have performed their work, in a manner so ineffably stupid as to deny themselves the means of bettering their own condition. I have too much respect for the intelligence of my countrymen to believe it. The first object of human association is the improvement of the condition of the associates. Roads and canals are among the most essential means of improving the condition of nations, and a people which should deliberately, by the organization of its authorized power, deprive itself of the faculty of multiplying its own blessings, would be as unwise as a creator who should undertake to constitute a human being without a heart."

The Eastern Times, a Democratic paper published at Bath, in Maine, expresses great delight at the working of the Nebraska bill. It asserts, in a flaming head, that the bill "works gloriously for freedom," and cites it as one of the "great measures of the Democratic party." "The people (it says) are beginning to understand that, instead of the abolition of an arbitrary line between slavery and freedom being an extension of slavery, it really is the removal of a barrier to the progress of freedom." The same paper fortifies itself by quotations from the New Hampshire Patriot, the Democratic organ of that region.

The Patriot, after remarking upon the provisions of the Nebraska bill, and quoting Mr. WEBSTER to show that the "immutable laws of nature" had forbidden slavery to go into certain Territories, exclaims, with much satisfaction—

"The same principle is working out its glorious and beneficent results in Nebraska and Kansas. No human being, who is not idiotic or false-hearted, pretends there is a great prospect of the immense territory of Nebraska ever being trod by the foot of a slave. Even the most violent anti-slavery and anti-Nebraska papers openly admit all is safe here. And what a triumph! The territory of Nebraska is equal to thirty times the territory of Massachusetts or New Hampshire, and may hereafter make a dozen States, and all free! Is there no glory in this, no cause for exultation in this, if all are simply intent on the freedom of the soil?"

"As little doubt is there of the destiny of Kansas. A friend of ours recently received a letter from a gentleman in Kansas who had gone out from New Hampshire to explore and see with his own eyes. He writes back that not one Southern man is found to ninety-nine Northern and Western and German emigrants, and that not a doubt exists among the emigrants or the neighboring States as to the false character of the Kansas bill. When admitted as a State its manifest and glorious destiny is FREEDOM."

Giving further descriptions of the progress of things, the Patriot continues:

"All the valuable land open to settlement is already 'staked out' and 'claimed,' and eternal decrees could not make freedom more sure."

"Nor is this the beginning and end of the chapter, though this might be thought enough by any reasonable man. It is now proclaimed by anti-Nebraska papers that such is the rush of emigration in this direction, that like the too abundant rains which swell the rivers, it will overflow its natural banks, and, passing on to the immense territory of Texas, make two or three new free States out of soil which had been devoted to slavery! German emigrants are universally anti-slavery men, both from principle and from caste, being out to secure contact with the colored race; and, already occupying the western part of Texas, they will unite with the emigrants from the North and West in organizing free States on the soil of slavery."

"Nor is this all, great and good as it is. It is stated that Missouri is awakening to thoughts of freedom. Slavery was never strong there, and is mainly confined to the rich bottom lands of the Mississippi, while the western portion of the State is almost exclusively occupied by free men. During the last few years the number of slaves has been diminishing as things went worse; and now, when the State shall be nearly surrounded by free States, and the escape of slaves become so easy, and when so large a portion of the people are opposed to it, both from interest and principle, it is thought by those well acquainted with the state of public feeling that Missouri will give way to surrounding circumstances and Missouri itself join the sisterhood of free States around her! Should not such prospects satisfy the most zealous abolitionists? Should not the part only which is moral, certainly create the most devout thanksgiving? Ugh! New Mexico, Nebraska, the territory of a still future independent State, and Kansas, all are to be free, besides two or three to be carved from Texas, and Missouri itself to be free! Who could expect so much? Who asks for more? The abolitionists have harnessed for freedom, preached for freedom, and as they say, prayed for freedom. Let them content when they receive what they asked?"

"Indeed they now admit, almost without an exception, that such results have been secured by the Nebraska bill; that, instead of permanent and glorious, such as no single act of Congress has before secured."

"The Nebraska bill works gloriously and triumphantly for freedom. No act of any President or any Congress has secured so much and so suddenly and so easily for liberty, and men of all parties will be obliged to acknowledge the fact. The intelligent and honest National Congress, on the day after the passage of the bill, that though they opposed it from beginning to end, for the sake of peace and good feeling throughout the nation, yet truth and honesty required them to confess that in their belief the North and South should change their positions, and the North go for the bill and the South oppose it."

The Democratic papers in this region and South are very industrious in hunting up quotations from Whig papers: why is it that they see none of these precious consolations for Southern men in the Democratic journals?

It will be found that those Southern Whig presses which opposed the breaking down of the Missouri "barrier" were not such traitors to Southern interests, after all, as some of their adversaries have represented them.

Senator DOUGLASS lately addressed a public meeting at Geneva, in Kane county, Illinois, at which there was some excitement in consequence of his refusal to be interrupted in his remarks by questions from the auditory. After he had concluded his address and retired his speech was replied to by several gentlemen. A series of strong anti-Nebraska resolutions were then submitted and adopted by acclamation.

FROM THE LOUISVILLE JOURNAL.

A FORTUNATE FAMILY.—In the present Congress there are two members who are brothers—ISAIAH WASHBURN, Jr., who represents the Penobscot district in Maine, and S. B. WASHBURN, who represents the Galena district in Illinois. They are both gentlemen of ability, and one (Isaiah) has just been elected to the Maine Legislature by a nearly four thousand. The Illinois brother has been nominated for re-election in his district, and will unquestionably be successful. Another brother, Mr. C. C. WASHBURN, has been nominated for Congress by his political friends in Wisconsin, and his chance of an election is good. The three are Whigs, and possess fine talents, and, if elected, we presume it will be the first instance in the history of our country that three brothers have held seats at the same time in Congress.

[There are two other brothers in the House of Representatives—the Messrs STANTON, one from Tennessee, the other from Kentucky. They both went from the District of Columbia, of which they are natives—that is, Alexandria, which has since then been reconveyed to Virginia. They are both Democrats, and both men of ability and influence.]

HEALTH OF MARTINEBURG.—The Martinsburg Gazette announces that town to be entirely free from cholera.

MASSACHUSETTS DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

We yesterday gave a brief account of the doings of this Convention, which resulted in the nomination of HENRY W. BISHOP as the candidate for Governor and CALDER STETSON for Lieutenant Governor. We to-day publish a portion of the resolutions adopted by the Convention. It will be seen that whilst the Baltimore platform is reconstructed, and some generalities proclaimed in regard to self-government and the power of the people to control their own institutions, Nebraska is not even named; and yet the Boston Post declares that "the principles of the Nebraska bill, &c., were approved in bold, explicit, and truly democratic and constitutional resolutions."

There seems to have been a rebellious spirit present in the person of Mr. J. M. USHER, to whose speech some allusion was made in a Telegraphic report on yesterday's paper. In addition to what was stated, he publicly remarked, in referring to that portion of the Baltimore Platform which pledged the party against any renewal of the slavery agitation in Congress or out of it, "that not for ten years has there been so determined, so violent, so earnest an agitation of the slavery question as during the present Administration." He also declared "that the Nebraska measure was a violation of faith, and utterly repugnant to the feelings of the people of the State of Massachusetts." This caused considerable sensation, and an effort to put Mr. USHER down, but it was not deemed safe to silence unceremoniously a gentleman who had received 231 votes (out of 558) for President of the Convention. He was allowed to continue and conclude his remarks, to which there were spirited replies; and the Convention was closed with a noisy sort of enthusiasm, not by any means free from symptoms of discontent.

The following are the resolutions supposed to be referred to by the Boston Post as bearing upon the Nebraska act, viz:

Resolved, That we once more declare our adherence to the doctrines of the Baltimore platform of 1852, which lie at the foundation of every true Democratic struggle in the State or Nation